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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, PPS

DATE: 17 January 1957

FROM : Chief, LAS

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report #3

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By: 35	

A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None to report.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

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1. In response to a special request from WH Division, arrangements have been made with [REDACTED] to conduct a special course in Brazilian Portuguese for four persons. Course will meet two hours a day and run for 12 weeks. Cost \$600. (These arrangements followed failure on our part to locate a native speaker to serve under [REDACTED] as a drillmaster for a course conducted by us.)

2. In response to a special request from WH Division, we have assumed responsibility for a special course in intermediate Spanish for Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] and one other person.

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3. During the past two weeks, [REDACTED] have contributed about seven work-days assisting representative of the Management Staff in preparation of its paper on comparative costs, efficiency and security of external and internal training.

4. LAS on several occasions has provided Chairman, Language Development Committee with various estimates desired in connection with development of the program.

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5. [REDACTED] informally is drawing together a roundtable of directors of language training of State, NSA, Air Force, Navy and Army to explore areas in which closer cooperation can benefit all concerned. Among things initially to be considered are: better communication, use of each others programs, exchange of instructors, development of a pool of informants, aptitude and proficiency testing and incentive awards.

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6. [REDACTED] has indicated his desire for us to revive the special class in French that [REDACTED] had been conducting for several months for [REDACTED] and members of his staff. The course will continue in the next week or so.

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7. [REDACTED] have provided counsel to several non-OTR employees in connection with development of their career plans. This is a continuing activity of this office for persons from all parts of the Agency.

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8. The School is making vigorous efforts to locate at least one Turkish native speaker to relieve [REDACTED] of some of his load of 40 hours a week in the classroom and to provide his full-time Turkish class with more drill. [REDACTED] now is teaching one full-time and one part-time Turkish course, and two part-time Greek courses.

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9. Once again we are pleased to comment favorably on the assistance given us by the temporary detail of JOT's to IAS. [REDACTED] completed the first phase (Russian language students) of an investigation into the present usage of a foreign language by personnel who had participated as full-time trainees in that language during the past several years. [REDACTED] assisted [REDACTED] for a few days in conducting followup interviews; additionally, [REDACTED] contributed to our store-house of information on short courses available under the Defense Department.

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10. The Area Advisory Committee will meet approximately at six-week intervals in 1957. Permanent members are [REDACTED] (chairman), [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] At the 9 January meeting, principal agenda topics included: admission of auditors, security safeguards for class sessions, parking space for other-agency students and dependents, and teaching aids for the new regional-type Americans Abroad courses. Partly in view of security and escort difficulties, it was agreed to phase out the practice of admitting other-agency auditors to area courses. Security will be tightened by steps to ascertain the identity and clearance of all auditors present at lectures. Instructors will not be responsible for obtaining parking space for any students, though this difficulty is a major bar for dependents anxious to take the Americans Abroad courses. For the regional-type Americans Abroad courses, a check list of briefing topics will be prepared by [REDACTED] for the guidance of recent returnees in their special briefings on individual posts. These private or semi-private briefings are intended to tailor these new courses to the particular needs of class members whenever the number going to an individual post is too small to justify class discussion of conditions there.

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11. [REDACTED] consider that the quality of instruction by guest lecturers and panel members in the current offering of the survey course on Germany has been uniformly outstanding. Seven sessions since 3 January on constitutional and positical topics have been especially gratifying, featuring eight guests, all with many years of residence in Germany as well as specialization on that country. A special announcement of speakers for the balance of this course--including Mrs. Eleanor Dulles of the Office of German Affairs at State--is attached.

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12. The first Americans Abroad course to be conducted by IAS on a regional rather than a country basis was concluded on 11 January. The Middle East was the region. Seven students, including two dependents, and several auditors attended the 15-hour course. The regional approach, by giving to the students a wider horizon than the limits of the foreign city for which they were heading, proved more successful than had been anticipated.

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13. Mr. [REDACTED] of TSS consulted Mr. [REDACTED] for some information on the Uighur or Jagatai language of Sinkiang; Mr. [REDACTED] was also consulted.

14. Mr. [REDACTED] received an inquiry from NEA regarding the comparative size of the vocabularies of English, German, French and Spanish. He gave a tentative answer and referred the inquirer to a source where he could get more exact information.

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15. Mr. [REDACTED] worked on the preparation of the Spanish examination, revising and reducing in size one part previously used.

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16. At the request of Mr. [REDACTED] drafted and later revised a self-evaluation form for language proficiency. He also attended a meeting of the committee on the language study incentive award program on 11 January.

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17. Mr. [REDACTED] substituted for Mr. [REDACTED] as instructor in a German translation course for five hours.

18. Concerned with the ferment and unrest increasing almost daily amongst the non-Slavic peoples within the Soviet Orbit, a special committee on the Soviet Orbit languages has been set up in Eastern Studies, and is currently considering the undertaking of a new program covering area and language materials in Central Asia. Mr. [REDACTED] is chairman of this committee.

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19. Mr. [REDACTED] reports that the Sphere of Indian Influence in Southeast Asia recently terminated with a total enrollment of 48. The breakdown from the various Agency components and members of the intelligence community is: DDP-11; DDI-2, OCR-7, FDD-5, [REDACTED]-2, ORR-2, ONE-1, OSI-1; DDS/OTR-1; NSA-1; USIA-4; State-5; Army Map-5; AFOIN-1.

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20. Mr. [REDACTED] met on 9 January with [REDACTED] Assistant TO for OCR, and [REDACTED] Chief, USSR-Asiatic Branch, Industrial Register, to discuss special problems of training in Russian for Industrial Register personnel. Although for the next semester, such persons will be placed in our regular courses, a special course tailored for the Industrial Register is being planned by us for the near future. Mr. [REDACTED] agreed to supply reading materials in Russian which are most typical of their needs, which we will compile in the form of a reader. Mr. [REDACTED] also furnished us with copies of a list of the 250 most common industrial terms in Russian, for inclusion in the Basic Kit.

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21. Current enrollment in internal language training programs is 411, 273 in courses and 138 in self-study. During the past week, the language laboratory was used for a total of 366 hours by 91 students.

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22. [REDACTED] returned to the office on 14 January, after being on sick leave since Thanksgiving.

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